Office of School Readiness Professional Development

"To prepare children for school success through high quality early education."

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- During '07/'08 OSR began a PD planning process and reviewed existing research.
- Synthesis of research on optimal Professional Development (McREL):
    - Shift to child-centered planning
    - Organize by collective groupings/ Community of practice
    - Depth vs. Breadth
    - Extensive/Intensive (80-160 hours)
    - Ongoing process that includes follow-up
    - Focus on content and strategies
- A decision was made to restructure professional development efforts in response to current research regarding how best to meet the learning needs of early educators while building capacity at the regional and local level.

The planning process led to the following Goals and Strategies

- OSR Professional Development Goal:
    - To promote children's learning and development through effective, performance-based early childhood education practices.
- OSR Goals for Children:
    - Demonstrate developmentally appropriate emotional and social skills across a variety of settings
    - Acquire and use developmentally appropriate knowledge and skills across a variety of settings
    - Take developmentally appropriate actions to meet their needs across a variety of settings
- OSR Goal for Teachers:
    - To promote children's learning and development through effective, performance-based early childhood education practices
- OSR Professional Development Content:
    - Curriculum
    - Early learning standards
- OSR Professional Development Strategies:
    - Introductory & Application Levels
    - Move from Statewide to Regional Orientation

TIMELINES AND NEXT STEPS

- During '08/'09 OSR will
    - Plan for regional PD structure with state and regional partners
    - Develop extension tools and structures for use in all trainings supported by the OSR with a menu of activities for additional renewal credit (E.g. self-assessment, Back Home Plan)

        AND

    - Continue to support Preschool Demonstration Programs in an effort to extend learning opportunities http://www.osr.nc.gov/ProfDevandResources/ preschoolDemonstrationProgram.asp
    - Launch *Introduction to Foundations* Online – Target date of January '09
    - Support selected Conferences
    - Purchase training materials for the EI/Early Childhood Lending Library, for use by local programs http:// www.osr.nc.gov/whatsNew/pdfs/NCEI-EC_Library_ Flyer_1[2008].pdf
    - Maintain PD information on OSR web site's *Calendar of Events* http://www.osr.nc.gov/calendar/index.asp
- During '09/'10 OSR will:
    - Implement Regional PD Structure
    - Evaluate
    - Revise as needed

OSR will provide continued PD Support and provide regular updates on the web site http://www.osr.nc.gov/ ProfDevandResources/professionalDev.asp